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<b>(21) International application number:</b> PCT/FR99/01636 <b>(22) International filing date:</b> 7 July 1999 (07.07.99) <b>(30) Data relating to the priority:</b> 98/08,874 10 July 1998 (10.07.98) FR <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> RHONE-POULENC ANIMAL NUTRITION S.A. [FR/FR]; 42, avenue Aristide Briand, F-92160 Antony (FR). <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(73) Inventors/Applicants (US only):</b> CARENCOTTE, Frédéric [FR/FR]; 14, rue Louis Aragon, F-69330 Meyzieu (FR). GARRAIT, Michel [FR/FR]; 1448, route de Coutois, F-69390 Millery (FR). GROS, Georges [FR/FR]; 25, rue du Jubilé, F-92160 Antony (FR). <b>(74) Representative:</b> LE PENNEC, Magali; Rhône-Poulenc Rorer S.A., Direction Brevets, 20, avenue Raymond Aron, F-92165 Antony Cedex (FR).		<b>(81) Designated states:</b> AE, AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SG, SI, SK, SL, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO Patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian Patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European Patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI Patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> With the International Search Report.  [stamp]
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<b>(54) Title:</b> METHOD FOR SEPARATING HYDROXYMETHYLTHIOBUTYRIC ACID <b>(54) Titre:</b> PROCÉDE DE SEPARATION DE L'ACIDE HYDROXYMETHYLTHIOBUTYRIQUE <b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>The invention concerns an improved method for separating hydroxymethylthiobutyric acid by neutralising hydroxymethylthiobutyronitrile sulphuric hydrolysate, decanting and treating each phase with an organic solvent.</p> <b>(57) Abrégé</b> <p>La présente invention concerne un procédé amélioré de séparation de l'acide hydroxyméthylthiobutyrique par neutralisation de l'hydrolysate sulfurique de l'hydroxyméthylthiobutyronitrile, décantation et traitement de chaque phase par un solvant organique.</p>		